

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00  
DOTE-00 EB-07 INR-07 NSAE-00 EPG-02 FAA-00 MCT-01  
PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-15 /082 W  
-----007295 111902Z /43

R 111523Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8484  
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI  
AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
USINT BAGHDAD  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY DOHA  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY MANAMA  
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

UNCLAS KUWAIT 3838

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINS, KU  
SUBJECT: STRONG ANTI-HIJACKING SENTIMENT IN KUWAIT

REF: KUWAIT 3634

1. WITH TWO UNSETTLING HIJACKINGS FROM BEIRUT TO KUWAIT IN THE PAST FIVE WEEKS, BOTH OF WHICH HAD SOME MIDDLE EAST POLITICAL OVERTONES, OFFICIAL AND PUBLIC REACTION HAS DEVELOPED A STRONGLY ANTI-HIJACKING THEME. AFTER THE JUNE 5 CAPER BY A CRIPPLED LEBANESE, THE GOK WENT ON RECORD AS REJECTING ALL HIJACKING "REGARDLESS OF MOTIVES," AND AS DENYING THAT HIJACKERS COULD HAVE "HUMANE" MOTIVES (REFTEL). IN THE WAKE OF THE JULY 8 HIJACKING BY PALISTINIAN MOVEMENT OUTCASTS,  
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SENTIMENT IN KUWAIT IS EVEN MORE STRONGLY AGAINST AIRBORNE PIRACY. AFTER THE JULY 10 KUWAITI CABINET MEETING, ACTING MINISTER FOR CABINET AFFAIRS JASSEM MARZOUK TOLD THE PRESS THAT THE LATEST HIJACKING WAS "IRRESPONSIBLE" AND THAT THE CABINET HAD "CONDEMNED IT." HE ALSO LAID EMPHASIS ON THE FACT THAT THE CABINET HAD REQUESTED

DEF MIN"INT MIN SHEIKH SA'AD AL-ABDULLAH TO  
"FOLLOW UP THE LEBANESE INVESTIGATION," PRESUMABLY  
TO FIND OUT HOW THE LATEST BAND OF HIJACKERS (AND  
THEIR ARMS) CAME ABOARD AND THUS FOUND THEMSELVES  
IN POSITION TO STAGE THEIR PERSONAL DRAMA IN KUWAIT.  
IN THE HEAD OF THE NEGOTIATIONS  
WITH THIS BAND, MINISTER SA'AD AL-ABDULLAH WAS HEARD  
TO SAY "THEY CAN TAKE THAT AIRPLANE AND GO TO HELL,"  
ACCORDING TO ONE REPORT.

2. EDITORIAL COMMENT AND REMARKS MADE TO EMBOFFS  
BY KUWAITI OFFICIALS AND OTHERS REFLECT UNIVERSAL  
DISGUST OR APPREHENSION ABOUT HIJACKING.  
WE ARE NOW HEARING NO APOLOGIES FOR "DESPERATE"  
HIJACKERS DRIVEN TO THEIR DESPERATION BY THE MIDDLE  
EAST SITUATION. THE POINTLESSNESS OF THE TWO HIJACKINGS  
SEEMS TO HAVE TRIED EVERYONE'S PATIENCE AND FURTHER  
DISCREDITED, IN LOCAL EYES, THIS METHOD OF POLITICAL  
ACTION. ON THE BASIS OF PRELIMINARY PRIVATE  
REACTIONS OF PALESTINIAN RESIDENTS OF KUWAIT, AND  
THE CONTENT OF THE LOCAL PRESS, WHERE THEY HAVE MAJOR  
EDITORIAL INFLUENCE, WE BELIEVE THAT THE VAST MAJORITY OF  
THEM NOW SHARE THE OFFICIAL KUWAITI VIEW.

3. ONE EDITORIAL WRITER (AL RAI AL AM,  
JULY 10) WENT EVEN FARTHER THAN CONDEMNATION OF  
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RECENT HIJACKINGS, BY ASSERTING THAT THE PLO  
SHARED THE BLAME FOR CURRENT HIJACKINGS BECAUSE  
OF ITS FAILURE TO TAKE "DRASTIC ACTION" AGAINST  
HIJACKERS IN THE PAST. ANOTHER, MORE TYPICAL,  
EDITORIAL (AL ANBA, JULY 10) CALLED THE LATEST  
HIJACKING "PIRACY" AND DEMANDED THAT THOSE  
RESPONSIBLE BE TRIED AS CRIMINALS.  
MAESTRONE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, AIRCRAFT HIJACKING  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 11-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770246-0354  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 KUWAIT 3634  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Review Date:** 26-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1906215  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** STRONG ANTI-HIJACKING SENTIMENT IN KUWAIT  
**TAGS:** PINS, KU  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009